

Remarks:

Claims 1-43 and 84-92 are currently pending in the application. Claims 25-43, 83, 85, 88, 89, and 90-92 are allowed. Claims 2-4, 6-24, 86 and 87 objected, but indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected.

By this amendment, claims 1-24 are canceled without prejudice. New claims 93-140 are added. Claims 93-116 are generally claims 2-4, 6-24, 86 and 87 rewritten in independent form, which were indicated as allowable by the Examiner. More specifically, claim 93 is similar to claim 2. Claim 94 is similar to claim 3, but depends on claim 93. Claim 95 is similar to claim 4. Claim 96 is similar to claim 6. Claims 97-113 are similar to claims 7-23, but depend directly or indirectly from claim 96. Claim 114 is similar to claim 24. Claim 115 is similar to claim 86. Claim 116 is similar to claim 87. Claims 117-140 parallel claims 1-24 and focus on an assembly line for a recloseable lid assembly comprising thermoformed lid and closure tab, instead of a composite article comprising thermoformed first and second workpieces.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added to the application by these amendments. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,705,932 to Hurst et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claims 1 and 5 are no longer present in the application. Therefore, the rejection is moot.

The only independent claim in the application that is not allowed or indicated allowable is claim 117, which expressly requires a manufacturing line that thermoforms a lid and closure tab from a plastic sheet, trims one of the lid and closure tab from the plastic sheet, and assembles the trimmed lid or closure tab to form the recloseable lid assembly. As such, claim 117 is not anticipated by Hurst et al. because Hurst et al. discloses a manufacturing line for assembling two sheets of table tennis ball halves. There is no disclosure in Hurst et al. of assembling thermoformed lids and closure tabs to form a recloseable lid. Claims 118-140 depend directly or indirectly from claim 117 and are not anticipated for the same reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims in the application are allowable and early notification of allowability is requested. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 11, 2007

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